



Department of Transportation

State of Georgia

#2 Capitol Square, S.W.

Atlanta, Georgia 30334-1002

HAROLD E. LINNENKOHL
COMMISSIONER
(404) 656-5206

DAVID E. STUDSTILL, JR., P.E.
CHIEF ENGINEER
(404) 656-5277

LARRY E. DENT
DEPUTY COMMISSIONER
(404) 656-5212

EARL L. MAHFUZ
TREASURER
(404) 656-5224

VIA U.S. MAIL

April 25, 2006

Brig. General James E. Sehorn, USAF (Ret.)
State Inspector General
Office of State Inspector General
2 Martin Luther King, Jr., Drive, S.W.
1102 West Tower
Atlanta, Georgia 30334

RE: Investigation File No. 05-034

Dear General Sehorn:

I am in receipt of your report of investigation concerning misuse of GDOT employees, equipment and resources. In the report you have made the following recommendations regarding each allegation:

Allegation #1

The GDOT determine whether the evidence in its internal investigation is sufficient to identify the individual(s) responsible for the failure to deposit the proceeds of the sale of salvage into a state account and take any disciplinary or administrative action deemed appropriate.

Allegation #2

The GDOT coordinate with the Attorney General's office to seek reimbursement from the private property owner for the costs of the driveway repairs and replacement performed at state expense along SR 292. GDOT records reflect the cost incurred to the Georgia taxpayers to be approximately eight thousand eighty-eight dollars (\$8,088).

Allegation #3

The Commissioner of the GDOT provide a written directive to District Engineers to set forth department policy for employee appreciation and public relations events.

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General James E. Sehorn
April 25, 2006
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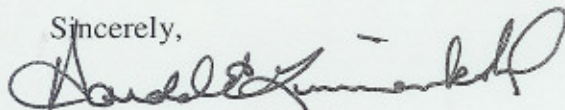
In response to your recommendation in allegation number one, the Department has undertaken an internal investigation to identify the individual(s) who may have been responsible for failure to deposit the proceeds of the sale of salvaged materials into a state account. In addition I have forwarded a letter to the Department's District Engineers to remind them and their subordinates of the Department's TOPPS Policy 7160-4 *Sale of Scrap and Waste Materials by Local Bid*, see attached.

In the second allegation you have directed the Department to coordinate with the Department of Law regarding reimbursement from the private property owner for the costs of driveway repairs and replacement. The Department has contacted the Attorney General's office and is awaiting their recommendations regarding this matter.

Finally, in the third allegation you have recommended that I provide a written directive to the District Engineers regarding a department policy for employee appreciation and public relations events. The Department currently has several internal TOPPS policies regarding employee ethical standards, specifically TOPPS 2255-1 *Standards of Conduct* and TOPPS 2255-10 *Political Activity Policy*, see attached. However in reviewing these two policies it appears that neither directly addresses the issue involved in this investigation. Therefore, I have directed the Director of the Office of Personnel to draft a department policy on employee appreciation and public relations events which I will forward to you for your files as soon as it has been completed.

I trust this addresses your concerns. If you need any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me at (404) 656-5206.

Sincerely,



Harold E. Linnenkohl
Commissioner

Enclosure

cc: Sandra Burgess, Director of Legal Services
Mike Johnson, Administrator, Office of Personnel

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